

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 ACDA-12 /088 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9662

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 12047

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, KE, SE

SUBJ: GOK DENIES ALLEGATED RENE CHARGE OF AIDING PLOT
AGAINST SEYCHELLES

REF: (A) NAIROBI 9864 (NOTAL), (B) NAIROBI 9454 (NOTAL)

1. DAILY STANDARD AUGUST 11 RAN BANNER HEADLINES "KENYA
DENIES COUP PLOT." ARTICLE STATED GOK ON AUGUST 10 HAD
DENIED ALLEGATION WHICH "QUOTED PRESIDENT RENE" TO EFFECT
THAT KENYA "KEPT AND PROVIDED TRAINING FACILITIES FOR A
NUMBER OF MERCENARIES INCLUDING THOSE ALLEGED TO HAVE
OVERTHROWN GOVERNMENT OF THE COMOROS."

2. ARTICLE CONTINUED THAT IN RESPONSE TO GOS CHARGE OF
KENYAN INVOLVEMENT AFTER APRIL COUP ATTEMPT GOK HAD SENT
"DENIAL NOTE" TO SEYCHELLES ASSERTING GOOD RELATIONS
BETWEEN KENYA AND SEYCHELLES WHICH WERE CONFIRMED DURING
ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER PETER KENYATTA'S JUNE 4 VISIT.

3. STANDARD QUOTED PORTION GOK DENIAL AS FOLLOWS: "REPETITION
OF THESE ALLEGATIONS BY SEYCHELLES' GOVERNMENT THEREFORE COMES
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AS COMPLETE SURPRISE AS IT CONTRADICTS FRATERNAL
UNDERSTANDING REACHED BETWEEN TWO STATES...KENYA WISHES
TO REITERATE HER COMMITMENT TO PRINCIPLE OF GOOD
NEIGHBORLINESS AND WOULD NOT ALLOW ANY FOREIGN
NATIONAL--REFUGEE OR OTHERWISE--RESIDING IN KENYA TO
ENGAGE IN ANY ACTIVITIES THAT MAY BE PREJUDICIAL TO
WELL BEING OF ANY AFRICAN COUNTRY."

4. BOTH SUNDAY NATION AND SUNDAY NAIROBI TIMES EDITORIALIZED ON ISSUE COMMENTING GOK PRACTICES POLICY OF NON-INTERFERENCE AND THAT THERE NO REASON WHY CLOSE TIES WHICH HAD EXISTED AT TIME OF PRESIDENT MANCHEM SHOULD NOT CONTINUE TO EXIST WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT. TIMES EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT ANY KENYAN INVOLVEMENT IMPOSSIBLE GIVEN "OPEN SOCIETY" IN KENYA WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT TYPE OF PLOTTING TOK CHARGED WITH.

5. MORNING AUGUST 14 VOICE OF KENYA (VOK) ANNOUNCED DISCLAIMER OF ACCUSATION BY PRESIDENT RENE BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR VISIT TO TANZANIA. HOWEVER, GOK ADDED THAT RENE HAD ADMITTED MENTIONING "MERCENARY SHIP" IN MOMBASA DURING RECENT INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN JOURNALIST.

6. IT INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI, IN AIRPORT ARRIVAL STATEMENT AUGUST 13 (RETURNING FROM OAU AND NAM MEETINGS) REPORTEDLY SAID HE HAD HELD TALKS WITH PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF SEYCHELLES AND "THEY WERE MOST HAPPY WITH KENYA AND THEY WANTED TO HAVE RELATIONS CEMENTED."

7. COMMENT: I AM CURIOUS AS TO WHAT MAY HAVE SPARKED THIS LATEST EXCHANGE. I HAD ASSUMED IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS BASED ON MY TALKS WITH GOK OFFICIALS AS WELL AS PRESIDENT CONFIDENTIAL

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RENE (REFTELS). I WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING EMBASSY VICTORIA HAS ON ALLEGED RENE CHARGES AS WELL AS RENE DISCLAIMER BROADCAST BY VOK.
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